



White House VISITOR CENTER

1450 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Celebrating Independence Day

If you have the "liberty" to stop by the White House Visitor Center on Wednesday, July 4, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., you may experience what it would be like to be a "signer" of the Declaration of Independence with the help of National Park Service rangers and volunteers from President's Park. During this full day of free programming, visitors of all ages will have the opportunity to sample some of the sights, sounds, activities, and personages that helped to form the United States of America on July 4, 1776. The day's events will include games, crafts and other activities for both children and adults.

A *Signature Event*, scheduled at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. will be a one-of-a-kind opportunity to put on a tricornered hat and play a role in one of this nation's greatest dramas, the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. In this fun and engaging interactive program, suitable for all ages, members of the audience will actually assume the roles of delegates to the Continental Congress and represent their colonies in a debate that will determine the fate of a nation! After the debate, each delegate will sign his or her name with a quill pen to a giant-sized copy of the document, receive a facsimile of period currency from his or her respective colony, ring a Liberty Bell, and receive a copy of the Declaration of Independence to keep as a memorial to their great efforts in the service of their nation!

For additional information, call (202) 208-1631.

Monthly Garden Tours Showcase White House History

Visitors will have a special opportunity to visit the White House grounds this summer on Saturdays, June 9, July 21, and August 11, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Visitors are invited to stroll the South Grounds of the White House and view the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden, Rose Garden, Children's Garden and South Lawn of the White House.

The event is open to the public; however, a ticket is required for all attendees, including small children. The National Park Service will distribute free, timed tickets at the Ellipse Visitor Pavilion, located at 15th and E Streets, on tour days beginning at 8:00 a.m. Tickets will be distributed – one ticket per person – on a first-come, first-served basis.

Don't miss your chance this summer to experience the "living" history that abounds in the gardens and grounds of the White House. Then, stop into the White House Visitors Center and complete your Junior Ranger program – available free to all!

Free same day timed tour tickets may be obtained at the Ellipse Visitor Pavilion (15th and E Streets, NW) beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the above dates. For additional information call (202) 208-1631.

Experience the "living" history that abounds in the gardens and grounds....



Return to 1787 and Sign the United States Constitution!



Beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 15th, President's Park will present a special program, "We the People..." celebrating Constitution Day. Visitors will have the opportunity to return to the year 1787 and add their names alongside the signatures of Benjamin Franklin, George Washington and other Founding Fathers. Copies of the United States Constitution will be available to the first 400 visitors.

At 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., visitors will have an opportunity to take on the role of one of the 55 delegates to the Constitutional Convention and help to create a more perfect union between the states in an interactive program suitable for all ages. A host of fun and engaging activities will be available for delegates young and old. Everyone is invited to recite the Preamble to the Constitution at 1:00 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to take METRO as no horse or carriage livery will be provided!

Constitution Day will be celebrated at the White House Visitor Center from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with crafts, activities, and games. A special program, "We, the People...", will be offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. For additional information, call (202) 208-1631.

SPECIAL FAMILY ACTIVITIES



A SIGNATURE EVENT

On Wednesday, July 4th, "1776," the Visitor Center will become the Pennsylvania State House in Philadelphia, PA. From 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. join us as we "host" the second Continental Congress. Delegates from all thirteen colonies will "meet" to sign the Declaration of Independence, one of the most important documents in the history of the United States. It represents the official first step toward the separation of the 13 colonies from the control of Great Britain. Participate in this momentous occasion and take part in the many festivities during the day, with a few "fireworks" thrown in! *No reservations required; pledge of life, fortune and sacred honor is optional.*



IT'S A BIRTHDAY PARTY!

On Saturday, August 25th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., President's Park will celebrate the 91st birthday of the National Park Service. Win prizes by testing your knowledge of the National Park Service in a fun and engaging game show called "Are You Smarter than a Park Ranger?" Book readings, crafts and games will be available for all family members. There are 391 reasons to be at this special celebration and we will tell you all about them on August 25th at the White House Visitor Center! *No reservations required.*



"WE THE PEOPLE..."

Join us on Saturday, September 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and add your name alongside the signatures of the thirty-nine delegates who signed the Constitution, including George Washington, James Madison, and Benjamin Franklin. Copies of the Constitution will be available to the first 400 visitors. Among the day's schedule of activities, visitors will have an opportunity to take on the role of one of the 55 delegates who attended the Constitutional Convention and enter a debate that will determine the fate of the nation. Everyone is invited to attend the "sessions" held at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. *No reservations required, but amendments are expected!*

WALKS, TALKS AND OTHER THOUGHTS

Interpretive programs are presented by Park Rangers daily, Monday through Saturday at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. These programs last from twenty minutes to one hour. More detailed descriptions of today's program are available at the Visitor Center Information desk.



WALKS THROUGH THE PARK

These ranger-led guided walks stop at many monuments and memorials in President's Park.

"A Walk Around the Park" –

A Park Ranger will discuss the rich history of the parklands surrounding the President's House.

"A Walk Through President's Park" –

Walk the paths of Sherman and Lafayette Parks and follow the progress of the nation through the people represented on some of America's finest statues, memorials and public buildings.

"Bernie and Me" – Visit Lafayette Park and hear about the close working relationship between Franklin D. Roosevelt and American financier and informal presidential adviser, Bernard Baruch.



Baruch Bench of Inspiration and dedication marker, located in Lafayette Park, north of the White House.



1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

"Why is the White House White?" – If it is built of gray sandstone, then how and why is the home of our President white?

"Presidents and Baseball" – In recent years, T-ball games have been held on the South Lawn of the White House. A Park Ranger highlights how today's T-ball games speak to a long standing interest of presidents in baseball.



GREAT PEOPLE IN HISTORY

"Eighty Agonizing Days" – Perhaps no summer in Washington, DC, has been as unbearably hot as the one experienced by our 20th President in 1881.

"Lincoln's Washington" – A Park Ranger explores the capital of the United States as it was while Abraham Lincoln was president.

"The Last Great Battle" – While he was victorious on the battlefield and in the political arena, hear the story of Ulysses S. Grant's struggle against his most daunting opponent.



THE NEIGHBORHOOD

"What's Inside This Place?" – Take an engaging tour through the White House Visitor Center with a Park Ranger.

"Inside the West Wing" – The President's workplace, the Oval Office, is located in the West Wing. What else is located there?

"A Tribute to the First Expeditionary Force" – Learn about the illustrious history of the Army's First Infantry Division and the "Big Red One."

"Where's Art?" – Join us for a hunt through the White House Visitor Center to find replicas of art found in the White House.

"On the Road with Ike" –

Do the words, "Are we there yet?" cause you great anxiety? Join a Park Ranger and hear about the adventures and mishaps of the first great American road trip.

Zero Milestone, located on the Ellipse.



JUNIOR RANGER DAYS

On Saturdays, June 9th, July 21st, and August 11th, a special Junior Ranger Program will be available at the White House Visitor Center. Junior Ranger activities will focus on the White House gardens and grounds. Completion of the program entitles you to a Junior Ranger badge from President's Park and a special Junior Ranger prize!

PULL UP A SEAT!



The video "Gardens and Grounds of the White House" will be shown continually on Saturdays, June 9th, July 21st, and August 11th.



Interpretive Program



Walking Tour



Video Presentation



Special Event



EXPERIENCE
Your **AMERICA**

Programs may change due to reassignment of rangers to other duties that serve the National Park Service. Every effort is made to maintain the schedule as printed. Please contact the Visitor Center at (202) 208-1631 to confirm programs and dates. The Center is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you wish to be added to our mailing list, e-mail us at wbho_presidents_park@nps.gov.

This calendar is sponsored by the National Park Service and the White House Historical Association.